

REMARKS

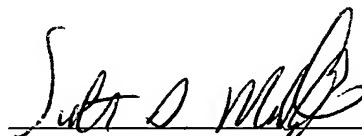
Claims 1-25 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1, 7, 8 and 22 being independent.

The specification and abstract have been amended to correct minor informalities and improve their idiomatic English form. In addition, editorial changes have been made to Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-8. Claims 9-25 have been added to provide an additional scope of protection. Support for the new claims can be found beginning on page 12, line 20 of the specification.

Due consideration and prompt passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Malpede", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Scott D. Malpede
Registration No. 32,533

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

SDM\mm

DC_MAIN 186940v1